

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A carrier tape forming apparatus comprising:
a tape paying-out unit for paying out a tape to be worked;
a tape feeding unit for feeding the tape;
a forming unit for effecting embossing on the tape;
a perforating unit for perforating at least a feeding hole in the tape;
a tape taking-up unit for taking up the finished tape thereabout;
a first double-acting driving unit aligned with a feeding direction of the tape along a straight driving path and being fluid-operated for driving the tape feeding unit;

a second double-acting driving unit aligned with the feeding direction of the tape along the straight driving path and being fluid-operated for driving the tape taking-up unit; and

a controller for controlling driving/stopping of the second double-acting driving unit in association with driving/stopping of the first double-acting driving unit.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a paying-out operation by the tape paying-out unit is effected by the first double-acting driving unit provided for the tape feeding unit for feeding [[the]] a tape feeding operation.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein [[a]] the tape paying-out unit includes a pay-out reel winding the tape to be worked thereabout, a dancer roller for adjusting the paying-out operation and a brake belt for braking a reel shaft of the pay-out reel; and

a braking amount of the brake belt is adjusted for adjusting an amount of the tape to be paid out from the tape paying-out unit, in accordance with a movement of the dancer roller associated with a feeding operation of the tape feeding unit.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprises a slitting unit for slitting or cutting off a width-wise end of the tape; and

a slitting blade and a feeding roller provided in said slitting unit are rotatably driven by said first double-acting driving unit provided for the tape feeding unit for feeding the tape.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the tape feeding unit includes a tape holding means aligned with the feeding direction of the tape and is movable back and forth in unison by the first double-acting driving unit for the tape feeding unit and a stopper for restricting a position of the tape holding means thereby to adjust a feeding amount of the tape.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the stopper includes a forwardmost position determining portion, a rearmost position determining portion and a feeding amount adjusting portion, the feeding amount of the tape being adjustable by a feeding amount adjusting portion.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the tape holding means includes at least one pair of tape holders provided across the forming unit and the perforating unit, and a connecting member for connecting the pair of tape holders together to be movable back and forth by the first double-acting driving unit.

8. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a carrier tape comprising the steps of: paying out a tape to be worked from a tape paying-out unit; fixing the tape in position at a forming unit and then embossing the tape at the forming unit; and releasing the worked tape; and taking up the worked tape at a tape taking-up unit;

wherein the tape is held by tape holding means provided across said forming unit; said tape holding means as holding the tape is moved together linearly by a double-acting driving unit which is fluid-operable, so as to pay out the tape from the tape paying-out unit and feed the tape intermittently; and

the tape is formed and worked at the forming unit under a suspended condition not effecting the feeding operation.

9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 8, wherein in the step of fixing the tape in position, this position fixing operation is effected with a feeding amount of the tape moved by the double-acting driving unit being restricted by a stopper.

10. (Withdrawn) A carrier tape formed by the method according to claim 8.

11. (Withdrawn) A carrier tape formed by the method according to claim 9.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the tape taking-up unit includes a take-up reel, a pinion gear, and a rack gear, and wherein the pinion gear and rack gear cooperate to convert straight-line driving to rotational driving of the second double-acting driving unit thereby rotating the tape taking-up reel.